



Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission  
Office of the Stewards

## **Stewards Report – 2019 Post Racing Season Delaware Park November 04, 2019 thru November 08, 2019**

### **Monday:**

Responded to emails regarding financial complaints from licensees. Sent out hearing notices for hearing on 11/11/19. Spoke with Charlestown Stewards about a suspended trainer in their jurisdiction. "Failure to Disclose" ruling issued for a F&B employee. Signed a financial ruling for Trainer, Heather Brown. Attempted two (2) calls for notification prior to distribution. Hearing notice sent to Trainer, Hubert Gaffney.

Rulebook and Condition Book review for future changes.

Employee meeting with Exec. Director John Wayne

### **Tuesday**

Administrative file clean-up, disposal of records with-in the retention guidelines. Merged files to eliminate duplication. Reviewed documentation for upcoming hearing(s). Communication with Investigator Crane regarding a licensee call this AM. Met with Investigator for an update on the Gaffney hearing Monday, November 11, 2019. Mr. Gaffney has requested a combination of two (2) hearings, Wednesday, November 6, 2019 and Monday, November 11, 2019. Exact date is yet determined pending notification to complainant. Gaffney hearing(s) confirmed for 11/06/19 @ 2:00pm.

Discussion with licensed Exercise Rider, Ryan Johns regarding the status of his fiancée, Alley Upp.

### **Wednesday:**

@ 8:15 am, while finalizing the docket and evidence for this afternoon's hearing, Gaffney/Frenzel we received an email via Steward's Secretary Diane Ness of an agreement reached between the two (2) parties. Sent an email to confirm the dismissal of the hearing and the matter closed to the complainant.

Preliminary preparation of a second (2<sup>nd</sup>) hearing for Trainer, Hubert Gaffney and complainant Bruno Favre in the matter of a financial obligation of \$1280.00 at 2:00 pm.

The hearing resulted in a mutually agreed settlement of payment of \$1320.00 in installments of \$240.00 dollars bi-monthly, with a final payment amount of \$120.00. This agreement negates any Stewards' ruling necessary. The matter is closed pending a failure to fulfill by Mr. Gaffney.



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Decision to send hearing notice(s) to a Trainer and Owner in the matter of a catastrophic breakdown at Delaware Park on August 5, 2019 this date. Notice to appear scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2019 @ 2:00 pm. This offers a twelve (12) day notice to afford "due process" for both licensees.

Restored three (3) licensees to good standing via payment of fines.

**Thursday:**

Notification by Exec. Director John Wayne to send a hearing notice to Stable Employee, Jake Secor (DTRC license expired 12/31/16), and Owner/Trainer, Juan Carlos Vazquez (DTRC license expired 12/31/17) Re: Alleged Submission/False Information. Hearing scheduled for 11/19/19 @ 10:00 AM

Received a call from Owner, Eugene Gilhooly dba Schoolyard Stable, regarding a purse yet released from 10/05/19 at Delaware Park. Winner of the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) race SHEZA HANDFULL, trained by Hugh I. McMahon has not been cleared. Unable to notify the owner; pending official notification from the laboratory.

Talked with Asst. AG Oliver Cleary about the Commission meeting on 11/20/19. Secured contact info for a possible witness, forwarded to Mr. Cleary. Preliminary appointment scheduled for Tuesday, November 19 for preparation of the appeal(s) before the Commission.

**Friday:**

Steward, Jean Chalk walked the stable area with Investigator Crane to determine the numbers of horses remaining on the grounds. Read the preliminary reports relative to the "hearing" for Juan Vazquez and Jake Secor on 11/19/19. Discussed the issues involved and what rules may be applied to warrant? Googled the lawsuit filed by John Patitucci vs. Delaware Park et al (07/18/17) to gain some background information for use in the hearing? Juan Vazquez is not named in the lawsuit and the available information provides only basic facts alleged. Alleged submission of false information cannot be corroborated here. Awaiting additional documentation to support the allegation for hearing.

Printed recent "house rules" in Maryland for comparison to Delaware TRC rules, discussion by the Board of Stewards.

This adoption of "house rules" should never supersede "regulatory" rules in replacement. Many of these could be perfunctory in nature, until adopted through the legislative process. Workout requirements specifically, could be an additional condition that promotes and aids eligibility, fitness and ability to compete.

Tony Langford  
DTRC State Steward